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Hunt for area rapist continues

By Brooks Newkirk
Register Contributor

A serial rapist has been on the loose in the UNCG area for nearly four months and police have only a sketchy description of the attacker, described as a light-skinned black male in his 20s, approximately 5'10" with a medium build, according to UNCG's campus police.

Many students also remain on edge. "I use to go outside before it got dark, but after the attacks, I don't do that anymore. Everything I need to do

like eat dinner or got to the library, I try to do before it gets too late," said UNCG student Ketashia Johnson.

On UNCG's campus, there's a lot of debate as to whether or not campus police did their job alerting students in a timely fashion, but since the attacks didn't take place on school grounds, the case technically is not a UNCG police problem, but a Greensboro police problem.

According to Michelle Williams, a UNCG student, if students were notified earlier, maybe some of the

attacks would have been prevented.

"I really feel the school and campus police should have alerted us earlier. This stuff has been going on since December and many students didn't even know. It doesn't even feel like they're trying to protect us because if they were they would have let us know a lot earlier," Williams said.

Sgt. David Combs of the UNCG Campus Police Department says that they are taking extra steps to make sure students are safe.

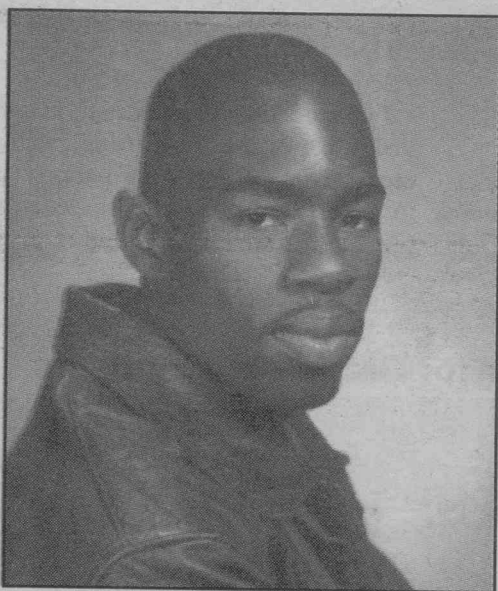
"There have been no attacks on the

campus, only the surrounding areas. I believe only one or two [of the victims] were UNCG students. We are taking some special precautions to try to catch this guy and keep our students safe," Combs said.

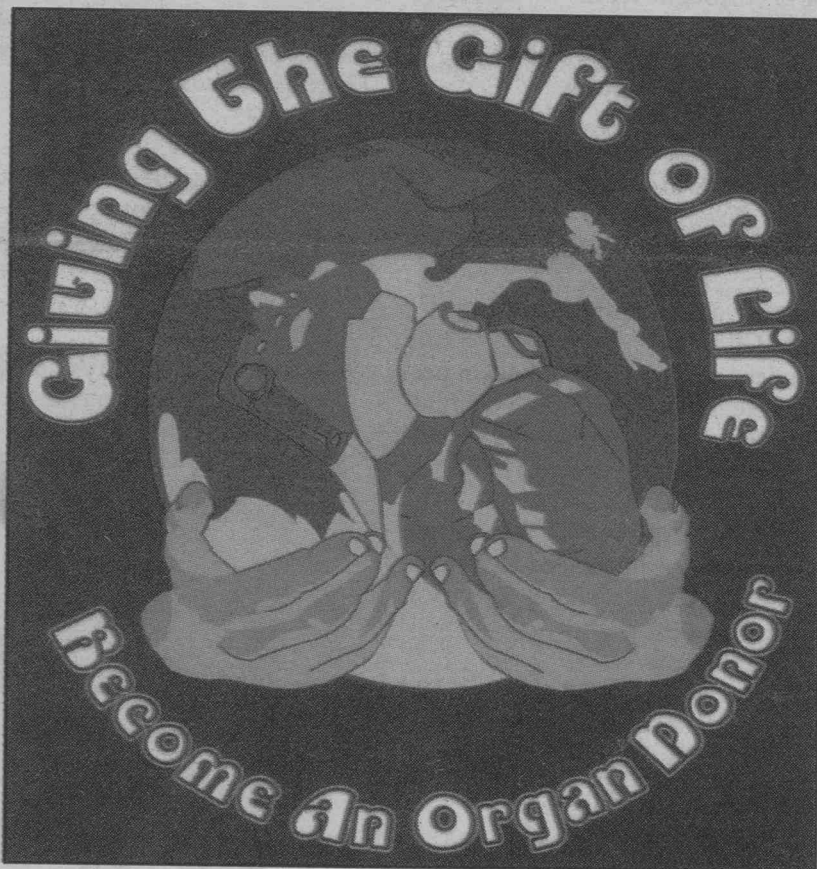
According to a 2001 National Institute of Justice report, about 3 percent of college women experience a completed or attempted rape during a typical college year. In addition, it is reported that one out of every six

Please see **RAPIST**, Page 3

Visual arts student receives award



Senior graphics communications and visual arts major Joe McCall is the winner of the organ donation art contest. His illustration will tour other historically black colleges and universities throughout North Carolina.



Submitted Photos

By Karina Hardy
News Reporter/Online Editor

Artist Joe McCall was announced the winner of the organ donation art contest held by the HBCU Health Promotion Alliance and Teloca (Student Nurses Association) and funded by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Resources.

McCall's original 11-by-19 illustration was of two hands cradling the earth and holding a heart centered on the contest theme "Giving the Gift of Life" to illustrate what individuals should know about the importance of organ donation.

For his award McCall received a first place engraved plaque, a certificate for 20 percent off at the A&T bookstore and his design will be on the back of A&T's winter 2003 schedule catalog.

McCall was very excited about winning the contest.

"I felt excited and proud when I found out that I won," said McCall, senior graphics communications and visual arts major. He plans to graduate this May and go into computer animations.

Organizers of the contest were very meticulous in choosing the winner.

"There were two judges that picked the winner which came from the art department and the graphic design department," said Dona Richardson of the visual arts department.

"Creativity played a large part in determining who the winner would be. He sent a message in his illustration that clearly depicted the meaning of the project."

McCall has other artwork displayed in the student art exhibit room in the Dudley Building until May 8.

A&T professor awarded

By Karina Hardy
News Reporter/Online Editor

Dr. Joyce G. Dickerson, an associate professor in the sociology department, was recently awarded the Fruit of Her Hands: Academic and Community Alliance Award by the Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute (BCDVI).

BCDVI is a national organization based in Atlanta that works to develop partnerships with governments, churches and law enforcement agencies throughout the United States.

Dickerson was one of eight recipients from across the country to be recognized by the BCDVI at the fifth annual "This Far by Faith Conference" in Atlanta. The Fruit of Her Hands Award recipients are recognized for their justice seeking, determination, courage and faith as they organize their communities to address domestic violence.

The Academic and Community Alliance Award is given to an individual who has a campus-based training program that encourages establish professionals to train alongside undergraduate and graduate students.

"This was my first time receiving this award. It was received from the work I have been doing with a campus-based program," Dickerson said.

Dickerson was recognized for her innovative and dedicated work as a local domestic violence activist. She is director of the N.C. A&T University Domestic Violence program and has created a Domestic

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Rapper Killer Mike tells all to Trina.
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Track teams look to make run at outdoor title.
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IN BRIEF

Earls to speak at commencement

Dr. Julian M. Earls, deputy director for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Glenn Research Center, will be the keynote speaker at N.C. A&T's Annual Spring Commencement. The ceremony will be held Saturday, May 10, in the Greensboro Coliseum. The lineup will begin at 9 a.m., the processional at 9:30 a.m. and the ceremony at 10 a.m. Approximately 1000 students will receive degrees.

Earls shares with the center director the responsibility of accomplishing the missions assigned to the center. GRC is engaged in research, technology and systems development programs in aeronautical propulsion, space propulsion, space power, space communications and microgravity sciences.

O'Neill to speak at A&T

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication with the Division of Speech will host its Third Annual Senior Awards Banquet, 6 p.m. Saturday, April 26, in the Memorial Union - Stallings Ballroom. The program will honor students for academic achievements and outstanding service to the department.

The keynote speaker will be Rita Little O'Neill, general manager of WCSC-TV in Charleston, S.C.

A native of High Point, O'Neill's career in the broadcasting field began in 1978 with WGHP-TV in Greensboro/High Point as a research/sales trainee. O'Neill has held various positions in television sales including positions with WJW in Cleveland, with Cap Cities/ABC National Sales in Chicago and with WBTV as local and national sales manager in Charlotte.

Lyceum Series continues

N.C. A&T's Lyceum Series presents "Jammin' with Pops," at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, in Harrison Auditorium.

This entertaining and inspiring musical play features the incredible lives and melodies of Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong.

For additional information, call 334-7852.

A&T sponsors summer institute

The Transportation Institute at N.C. A&T will sponsor a summer study and career awareness program in transportation for high school students June 25 -Aug. 1. The program is designed to expose students to academic and career possibilities in the transportation industry.

Participants will discover the world of air, land and water transportation, meet professionals in the transportation field, take field trips and enroll in a college course.

The institute is funded by the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. Free tuition and student stipends will be available for a limited number of students. For information and an application call Vanetta Phifer at 334-7745. The deadline to apply is April 25.

Students display artistic talents

By KARINA HARDY
News Editor/Online Editor

The Department of Visual and Performing Arts opened an art exhibition sponsored by the University Lyceum dedicated to creativity in the H.C. Taylor Art Gallery on March 21.

The art exhibition featured the artwork of visual arts majors and was free and open to the public.

For artist Connie Smith, a junior nursing and art major, this was a special occasion because it was her first time doing a sculptured piece.

"The sculptures I made were based on two prominent women in my life: my mother and a woman named Ms. Pee," Smith said. "The sculpture pieces reflect my childhood, so I put in a lot of detail to capture their beauty."

To reflect a more spiritual side, Joseph McCall created a facial sculpture of Jesus depicting the sorrow he felt on the



Sharonda Eggleton/Photo Editor

N.C. A&T's Lyceum Series held an art show dedicated to creativity in the H.C. Taylor Art Gallery on March 21.

cross for all people.

"This sculpture depicted Jesus Christ and the pain that he went through on the cross. I put him at the head of everything I do and I wanted to glorify him for that which he has given to me," said McCall. "The sculpture depicts a black figure of Jesus. I wanted him to be black because to me represents every black man."

The exhibition program was dedicat-

ed in honor of Elizabeth Dowdy King. Tia Smith and Richonda Hill honored through the poem "Phenomenal Woman" by Maya Angelou. In the poem, one student read the excerpts from Angelou's work while the other interpreted the poem through a creative dance.

King gave a small speech after the poem in appreciation of being honored by the visual arts department.

"It was wonderful seeing the students outstanding artwork each year. They put forth an effort to put the program together with extraordinary art work," added King.

The art gallery of A&T in the Dudley Building serves as a showcase for the world of art with a special emphasis on the cultures and people to the widening community and the surrounding area. The exhibition will be open through May 8.

EYE ON CRIME

These events took place the week of April 3 through April 9, university police reported.

Possessing Weapons

Aggie Suites Lot

A male student was found to have in his possession a crossbow. The crossbow was seized and turn over to investigations. No charges were filed.

Larceny and Vandalism

Scott Hall B

A student reported that unknown person(s) stole his Compaq laptop computer from his room. There is one suspect in this case. Estimated value \$1000.

Scott Hall C

A student reported that some unknown person(s) damaged his vehicle it was secured in the Laurel Street lot. Estimate damage \$350.

Laurel Street Lot

UPD officer discovered a vehicle had been broken into and one amp and two 12" woofers were missing (est. cost \$1350) Student refused to give suspect information.

Attempted Vehicle Theft

Aggie Terrace Lot

A non-student reported that some

unknown person(s) broke into their vehicles and attempted to hotwire them. Estimate damage to one vehicle is \$300, and the other \$500 for broken window. There are no suspects.

Vehicle Theft

Aggie Terrace Lot

A student reported that some unknown person(s) stole her 1996 Olds Cutlass.

The victim filed her report with the Greensboro Police Department.

Drug Violation

Scott Hall A

Two students were arrested on several drug charges after UPD officers discovered marijuana and drug paraphernalia in their room. The two students were placed under a secured bond.

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RAPIST

Continued from page 1

women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.

Also, with an attacker on the loose within two miles of UNCG's campus, which is right around the corner from N.C. A&T, many A&T students are also taking precautions to lower their risks of being a victim of sexual assault.

"I just try to walk with a group of friends at night. Sometimes I see girls walking by themselves and I'm like, 'Are you crazy?' It's too dangerous to be walking alone anywhere by yourself at night," said freshman business major April Odom.

Senior public relations major Chasidy Phelps believes that the best way to stay safe is to be cautious.

"I'm a cautious person, but most of the time I don't think about being attacked. Anytime something serious happens it makes me more aware. I always lock my doors and try to make sure someone is walking with me at night, but I think to a certain degree there's not but so much you can do," Phelps said.

According to www.survivorape.org, there are several techniques women and men can use to lower the risk of being sexually assaulted. Those techniques include:

*Making sure the doors and windows of your car and house are locked at all

times.

*Staying in well-traveled, well-lighted areas.

*If anyone in a car asks you for directions, answer and keep your distance from their car.

*Before you reach your home, car, office, etc., have your key ready.

*If you think you are being followed, change directions and head for open stores, restaurants, lighted houses, etc.

*Check around your car and in the back seat before you get in.

*Do not allow yourself to be isolated with someone you do not know or trust.

*If your car breaks down, lift the hood, lock the doors and turn on your flashers. If someone stops, roll your window down slightly and ask the person to call the police or tow service.

According to A&T's Annual Security Report, the University Police Department request that you do the following if you are attacked on campus:

*Call the campus police immediately and give as much detail as possible concerning your location, injuries and suspect information.

*Remain dressed in the same clothing; important evidence linking the suspect to the crime may be found on your clothes.

*Do not take a shower or destroy any evidence.

*When possible, secure the area (your dorm room, car, etc.) and do not let anyone mess with the evidence.

If you or someone you know is sexually assaulted, seek professional help immediately.

DICKERSON

Continued from page 1

Violence Resource Center, where she trains undergraduate and graduate social work students to work in the field of domestic violence. She also supervises students' field placement in domestic violence agencies throughout North Carolina.

"It is an awareness program to help those students who are in domestic violence situations and alert them of the warning signs in relationships," Dickerson said.

"It is an educational program for students, faculty and staff to learn the signs of domestic violence and how to deal with it and how to receive help."

She added that "many times college students, faculty and staff do

not recognize the fact they may be in a domestic violence situation."

Additionally, Dickerson has been recognized for involving the BCDVI in her Fifth Annual Conference on Domestic Violence and Underserved Populations on the campus of A&T.

Dickerson is humble yet satisfied with her award.

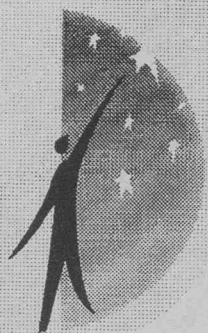
"I have a passion for this work. I do not expect awards; I do this because this is what I like to do. I don't look for something in return," Dickerson said.

"I am glad to be recognized with this award and I am thankful for the opportunity to help others," said Dickerson.

For more information on domestic violence issues, contact the student counseling services at 334-7727.

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Editorials reflect the opinions of the A&T Register but not necessarily those of the university. Views in guest commentaries and letters to the editor are those of the writer.

THE A&T REGISTER

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Are rap videos getting a bad rap?

A recent study released by The American Journal of Public Health stretches to find a link between rap videos and bad behavior in adolescent African American females.

The study was originally conducted by researchers, doctors and scholars from Georgia and Alabama in an attempt to determine eligibility for participation in an HIV prevention program.

The girls were eligible to participate if they were African American; between the ages of 14 and 18, had been sexually active in the past six months, and had written consent from their parents. But the study took a sudden turn when researchers realized that a large majority of the girls who participated were behaving badly and the common factor was overexposure to rap videos.

The study found that black teen girls between the ages of 14 and 18 who watched more than the average of 14 hours of rap videos per week were more likely to have problems with the law, abuse drugs and contract a sexually transmitted disease.

It also found that these girls were three times more likely to hit a teacher, 2.5 times more likely to be arrested and almost two times more likely to have multiple sexual partners than girls who watched at or below the average amount

of rap videos per week.

These are pretty alarming facts, but there are a few flaws in the researchers' study that could be the main difference between rap videos being a major factor in black teen girls behaving badly, or another case of rap getting a bad rap.

All of the 522 girls who participated in the study from December 1996 through April 1999 lived in rural, poor neighborhoods.

So could it be possible that these girls' bad behavior had less to do with the amount of rap videos they watched and more to do with their environment? Or lack of parental guidance? Or even lack of education? And what about young black females who live in the middle of American, whose parents are car pooling, PTA-attending lawyers and doctors, are rap videos causing them to behave badly as well?

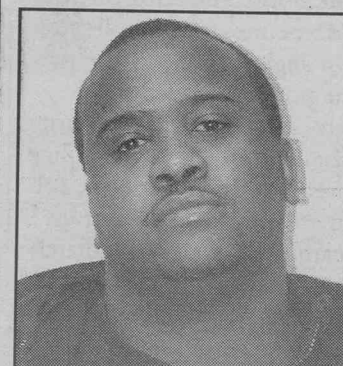
It's these holes in the study that makes the study lose some of its validity, but regardless of this the researchers' stand by their work and their theory that rap videos cause bad behavior in adolescent African American females.

Gina Wingood, one of the researchers, admits that she doesn't know if overexposure to rap videos caused the girls studied to behave badly or if the study only reflected interests they already had, but one thing that she makes clear is that there is definitely a connection.

But in order for the study to be taken seriously, more research is needed to change the current findings and the researchers know this, otherwise, the idea that rap videos cause black teen girls to behave badly is a pretty big pill to swallow.



Brooks Newkirk



What issues would you like to see SGA address next year?

"Next year I would like to see SGA make A&T's campus more active. That issue has been addressed before, but no actions have been taken. They should find more things to do and get the student body more involved."

R.J. Spruill
junior, manufacturing systems major

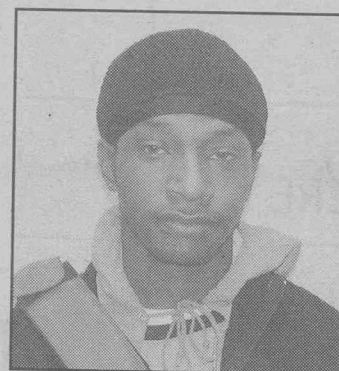
"I think there should be more on-campus activities on the weekends. At A&T, students just go home on the weekends because there is nothing to do like there is on campuses such as UNCG."

Shaqueila Lawton
sophomore, accounting major



"I think they need to address student activities more and also be more involved in the way campus organizations carry out their activities because they aren't organized."

Michael McKoy,
junior, social work major



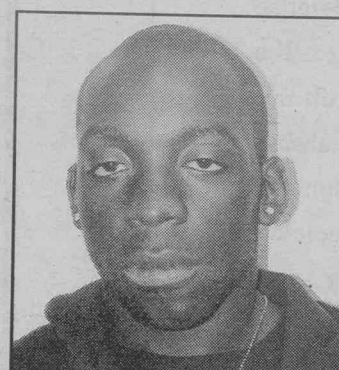
"A lot of people talk about parking issues and having housing for everyone and not just incoming freshmen. I would like to see those issues addressed next year."

Rhonda Fedrick
senior professional history major
(December graduate)



"I don't think they can make much of a change. I think that they have limited power and can only go so far."

Issac Levy
sophomore, criminal justice major



Letters to the editor

are welcomed by

e-mail at register@ncat.edu

or by mail to N.C. A&T State University,

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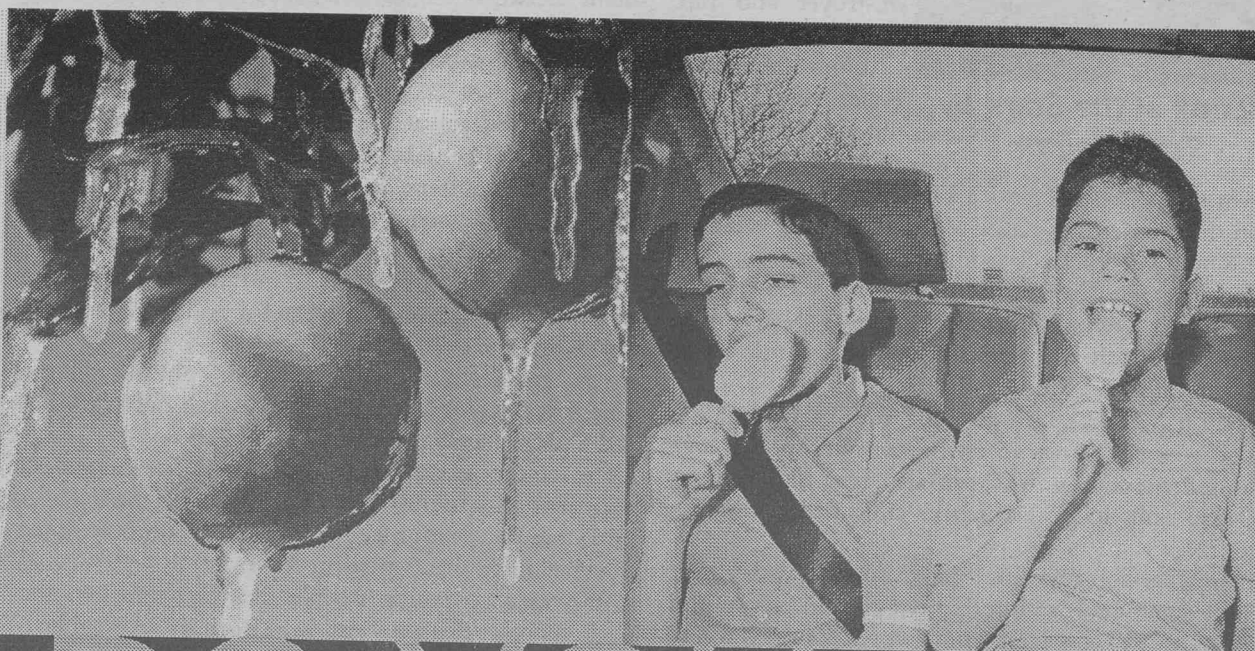
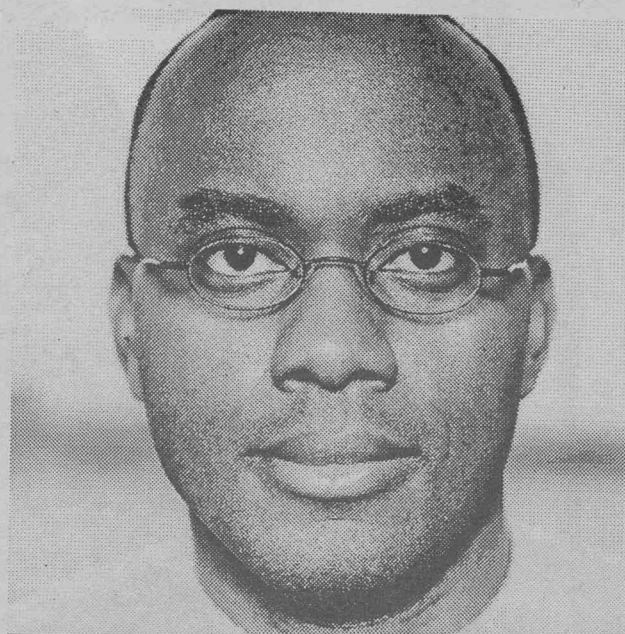
THE REGISTER

A follow-up interest meeting for students interested in becoming staff members or contributors will be held Tuesday, April 15 at 3 p.m. in The Register office, 309 Crosby Hall.

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Submitted Photo

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- James Hill, BET.com

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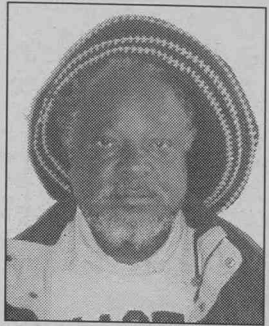
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Track teams poised for title run

BY CHRIS WALLACE
Register Sports/ E-Vibes Editor



Thompson

Often in sports, teams have seasons to remember and some are meant to be forgotten. For this team, last year was definitely one to remember and this one won't be far behind.

For head coach Roy "Spaceman" Thompson and his N.C. A&T track team, they are no longer the team from the HBCU in North Carolina

that is just competing. They are no longer a team fighting for respect. They aren't even overconfident in their abilities, and for most sports fans, this shouldn't be the toughest thing to accept about this squad...they just set records and win.

In a sport where a hefty ticket and court cases aren't imposed for speeding, these fairly young Aggies are often running and jumping past opponents while walking down a number of records. That's a scary thought for the rest of the nation.

"We have a young team, and they're all going to be back and that's what I'm happy about," said an elated Thompson. "This group of young men and women are also studious. A lot of them are self-motivated and our assistant coach did a great job of recruiting them. As a coach, you know you can't coach desire, and we train as world class athletes. We don't train to get by. We train to be the best."

While Thompson and company have earned respect over the past few seasons, they remain content, and he expects his team to perform at a high level.

In the recent United States of America Track and Field (USATF) Nationals, the Aggies set a school record by qualifying five athletes, including Sean White in the long jump, Everett Bruce in the triple jump,

Tawana Norman in the long jump for women and LaSonja Collins in the 200-meter dash for women. Tim Walls, who ranked sixth in the nation in the 60-meter dash and received a provisional invite to nationals, tore ligaments in his groin area and withdrew from competition. Walls was also a part of 2001's 4x100 relay team and despite the injury, Thompson remains optimistic of his team's future.

"Somebody else has to step up and that's what has happened," said Thompson. "He (Walls) will get a chance to rest and heal and run in the Olympic year."

Thompson also knows that he has the depth this season, something which was lacking.

"Last year, we didn't have as much depth as we do now. Now we have more quality depth than we did last year. We want to prove to the MEAC that we are one of the best in the nation and a force to be reconed with," he said.

If the indoor track season, which was arguably one of the most successful in school history, is any indication of what this team has in its plans, then the rest of the nation may as well pack its bags and leave.

Freshman Courtney Collins, who set the new 400-meter record with a time of 55.49, and sophomore LaSonja Collins, who ran the fastest 200-meter with a time of 24.39, have jolted the talent base for the young Aggies on the women's side. With veterans Norman, the 2003 MEAC long jump champion and record holder, and Purham, the 2003 MEAC indoor triple jump champion, the ladies look poised for a run at the outdoor championships.

The men's outdoor team will be without star sprinter Walls, but will rely on the leadership of veterans Bruce, the MEAC indoor triple jump champion, and White, who finished second in the long jump at the MEAC Championships in February.

"We're training as hard as we can to get ready for outdoors," said White, in an interview earlier in the year.

Thompson also commented on his team's plans for

the outdoor season.

"I expect that when nationals arrive, we'll be there," said Thompson. "We work hard here and we have a young team."

As Thompson continues to lay the foundation in hopes of building a dynasty, he and everyone else will always be welcomed to the N.C. A&T track team, "Where Speeding Is Legal."

2003 Outdoor Track Schedule

April 22-26: Penn Relays
Philadelphia

May 9-10: MEAC Outdoor
Championships, Orlando, Fla.

May 17: Georgia Tech Invitational,
Atlanta

May 30-31: NCAA Division I
Outdoor Regional, Fairfax, Va.

June 11-14: NCAA Division I
Outdoor Final, Sacramento, Calif.

Softball team places second in invitational

BY CHAD ROBERTS
Register Contributor

The Lady Aggies fast-pitch softball team hosted the N.C. A&T Invitational tournament on April 4-5, but the Lady Camels of Campbell won the tournament title, going 3-0 over the weekend and holding all opponents scoreless.

Campbell's Holly Harris was named Most Outstanding Player of the tournament. In the first game of the tournament, Campbell University beat Morgan State 8-0 in a game that was stopped early due to the eight-run rule. By the time the game was called in the sixth inning, Lady Camel pitcher Lisa Myers had struck out eight batters.

In the second game of the day, A&T faced Morgan State. Lady Bears pitcher Jamila Taylor gave up a two-run blast to Lorraine Geiger in the first inning, and the Lady Aggies held on for a 2-1 win. Cheretta Stevenson (4 IP, 1 R, 4 H, 6 K) earned her sixth win of the year and Latronda Anderson (3 IP, 5 K) picked up the first save of her collegiate career.

In Friday's third and final game, tournament Most Outstanding Player Harris pitched a one-hitter and struck out five over seven innings as Campbell defeated A&T 2-0 to earn a spot in Saturday's championship game. Latronda Anderson took the loss to fall to 10-9 on the year. Freshman Christina Brock, who played as designated hitter, recorded the sole hit for the Lady Aggies.

"She had a pretty good rise ball, but she wasn't that tough," said Brock.

"Even though I stopped the no-hitter, I don't feel like a hero because we still didn't win."

Tournament action was briefly delayed on Saturday due to rain. When play was resumed, A&T and Morgan State squared off again for a chance to play Campbell in the championship. Once again, A&T came out on top by a score of 6-2. Stevenson pitched a complete game, striking out eight batters over seven innings while going 4-4 with an RBI as well. The win improved her record to 7-8 and setup a rematch with Campbell for the tournament championship.

In the title game, Campbell University's Harris once again turned in a dominating performance, walking one and striking out six batters over seven innings while giving up five hits. When A&T loaded the bases in the third inning, Harris ended the threat by striking out Sharmain Murphy. The Lady Aggies had the tying run at the plate in the seventh inning, but Victoria Jackson hit into a double play that ended the game.

The 2-0 victory completed three games and 19 innings of shutout ball for the Lady Camels and earned them the tournament crown.

N.C. A&T placed three players on the all-tournament team: pitcher Latronda Anderson, first baseman Lorraine Geiger, and pitcher/shortstop Cheretta Stevenson. After the tournament, the Lady Aggies record is 19-19 overall and 7-4 in the conference.

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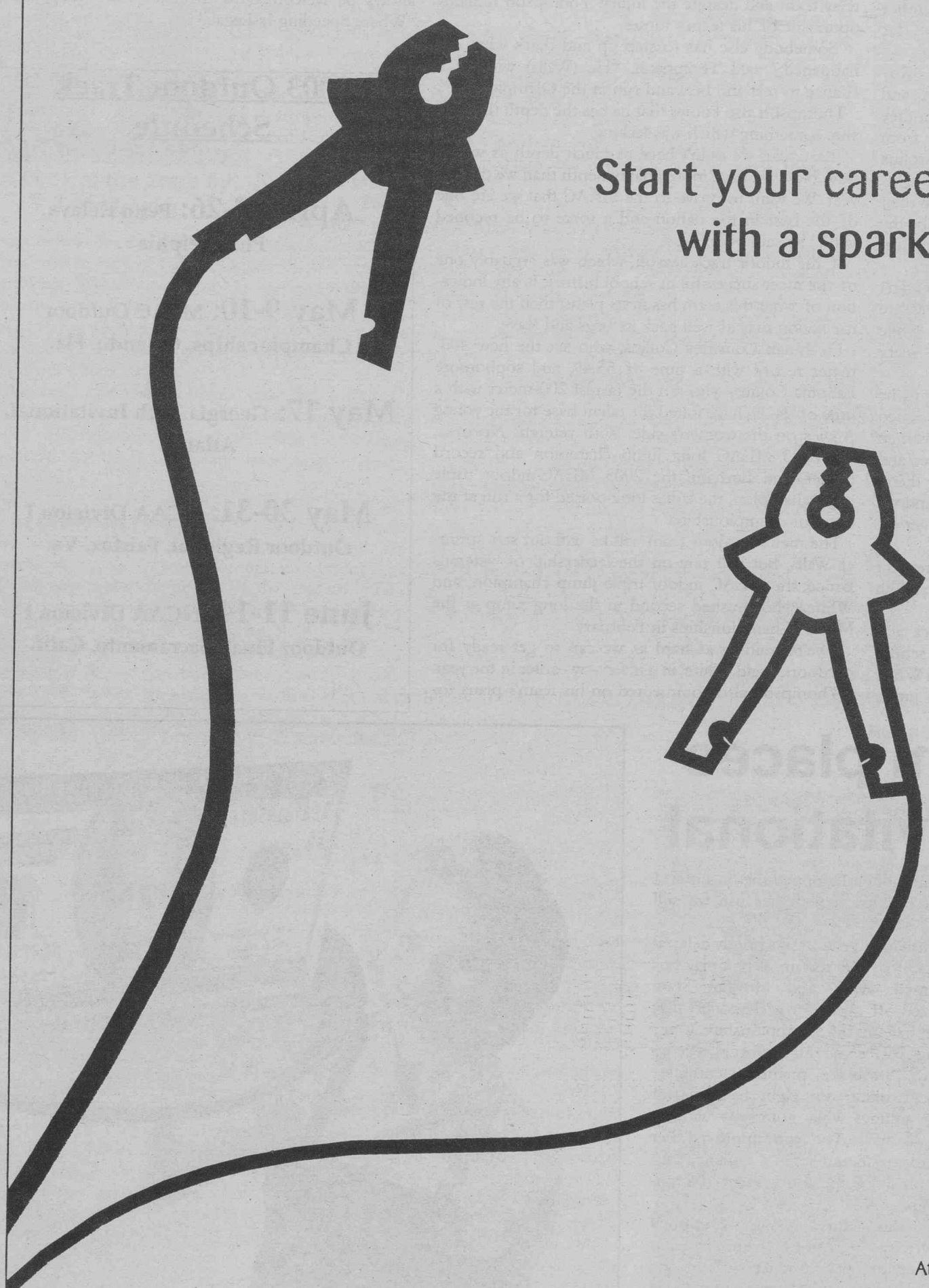
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